

## **A Resolve to Pray**

A New Year has come and with it the possibilities for change, growth and the unforeseen events a part of every year. Some of us approach a new year with a sense of renewal and hope while others seem apprehensive at best.

So what do we do? We think about resolutions! We spend time thinking about things that need to change. We make decisions about how we will live and what we will do to make a positive difference in our lives. Some of us have already begun those activities.

I hope your resolutions are beneficial to you as well as the fruits of new decisions and the prospect of a Happy New Year. However, we must always be prepared for those unforeseen things I mentioned earlier. Life doesn't always take the "turns" we most hope for but is often filled with the "twists" as well. Our resolutions are comfortable because we approach them with forethought while these unexpected things create anxiety. We have our hopes about the year but the doubts linger.

I have great hopes for the New Year but I have no idea what is going to happen. My only comfort is realizing God knows what will happen and God holds me "in the palm of his hand." The Hebrew Scriptures in the book of Proverbs has this to say, "The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps." This tells me to make plans is right but the final outcome of my plans is in God's hand. In the same chapter the text says, "Commit your works to the Lord, and your plans will be established." This tells me that while planning I need to keep God in the center of my plans.

In this life nothing is sure except that God knows all about us. God has invited us to make our plans with him in mind. The best way I know to do that is through prayer on a daily basis. Prayer is my resolution. I resolve to be a person of prayer. I hope you will make prayer one of your resolutions. To that end, St Michaels Chapel located at the Northeast side of the Chapel is open for prayer everyday. I will open the main Chapel at 0600 every Wednesday morning for those who would like to come for prayer. I hope you will make this and every year of your life a time of prayer to God who knows and sees all the "turns" and "twists" of our lives.

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